



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 201204-0325]

RIN 0648-BL10

#### **Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2021-2022 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments; Correction**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS published a final rule on December 23, 2021, announcing routine inseason adjustments to management measures in the commercial and recreational groundfish fisheries. In implementing these changes, NMFS inadvertently removed the trip limit for California black rockfish between 42° N. latitude and 40°10' N. latitude in Table 2 (North) and Table 3 (North). This correction is necessary so that the implementing regulations are accurate.

**DATES:** This correction is effective January 1, 2022.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sean E. Matson, (206) 526-6140, e-mail: [sean.matson@noaa.gov](mailto:sean.matson@noaa.gov).

#### **ADDRESSES:**

##### **Electronic Access**

This rule is accessible via the Internet at the Office of the Federal Register Web site at <https://www.federalregister.gov>. Background information and documents are

available at the Pacific Fishery Management Council's website at

<http://www.pcouncil.org/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS published a final rule on December 23, 2021, announcing routine inseason adjustments to management measures in the commercial and recreational groundfish fisheries. This rule is effective January 1, 2022.

The December 23, 2021, final rule implemented changes to trip limits for sablefish north of 36° N. latitude and for lingcod north of 42° N. latitude. Additionally, the final rule announced new sub-bag limits and sub-trip limits, in recreational and non-trawl commercial fisheries respectively, for two nearshore species, quillback rockfish and copper rockfish, as well as the shelf species vermillion rockfish.

In implementing these changes, NMFS inadvertently removed the trip limit for California black rockfish between 42° N. latitude and 40°10' N. latitude in Table 2 (North) and Table 3 (North) of part 660, subpart E and F, respectively. This correction reinstates this trip limit as Line 22 of both tables. No other changes are made via this correction document. This correction is necessary so that the implementing regulations are accurate.

### **Correction**

Effective January 1, 2022, in FR. Doc. 2021-27901 at 86 FR 72863 in the issue of December 23, 2021, the following corrections are made:

#### **Table 2 (North) to Part 660 [Corrected]**

1. On page 72869, in amendatory instruction 2, Table 2 (North) to Part 660, Subpart E—Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear North of 40°10' N Lat. is corrected to read as follows:

**Table 2 (North) to Part 660, Subpart E -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear North of 40°10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table

12/1/2021

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	North of 46° 16' N. lat.				shoreline - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
2					40 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
3	46° 16' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.				30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 40 fm line <sup>1/2/</sup>		
<b>See §§660.60 and 660.230 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).</b>							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
4	Minor Slope Rockfish <sup>3/</sup> & Darkblotched rockfish				8,000 lb/ 2 month		
5	Pacific ocean perch				3,600 lb/ 2 months		
6	Sablefish				2,400 lb /week, not to exceed 4,800 lb /2 months		
7	Longspine thornyhead				10,000 lb/ 2 months		
8	Shortspine thornyhead		2,000 lb/ 2 months			2,500 lb/ 2 months	
9	Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other				10,000 lb/ month		
10	Flatfish <sup>4/8/</sup>						
11	Whiting				10,000 lb/ trip		
12	Minor Shelf Rockfish <sup>3/</sup>				800 lb / month		
13	Shortbelly Rockfish				200 lb / month		
14	Widow rockfish				4,000 lb/ 2 month		
15	Yellowtail rockfish				3,000 lb/ month		
16	Canary rockfish				3,000 lb/ 2 months		
17	Yelloweye rockfish				CLOSED		
18	Minor Nearshore Rockfish, Oregon black/blue/deacon rockfish & CA black rockfish <sup>5/</sup>						
19							
20	North of 42°00' N. lat.	5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish or blue/deacon rockfish <sup>4/</sup>					
21	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat. Minor Nearshore Rockfish	2,000 lb / 2 months, of which no more than 75 lb may be quillback rockfish, and of which no more than 75 lb may be copper rockfish					
22	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat. California Black Rockfish	7,000 lb / 2 months					
23	Lingcod <sup>6/</sup>						
24	North of 42°00' N. lat.	5,000 lb/ 2 months					
25	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.	2,000 lb/2 months					
26	Pacific cod				1,000 lb/ 2 months		
27	Spiny dogfish	200,000 lb / 2 months		150,000 lb / 2 months		100,000 lb / 2 months	
28	Longnose skate				Unlimited		
29	Other Fish <sup>7/</sup> & Cabezon in California				Unlimited		
30	Oregon Cabezon/Kelp Greenling				Unlimited		
31	Big skate				Unlimited		

TABLE 2 (North)

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ Between 46°16' N. lat. and 40°10' N. lat. and the 30 fm and 40 fm lines, fishing is only allowed with hook-and-line gear except bottom longline and dinglebar gear, as defined in §660.11

3/ Bocaccio, chilipepper and cowcod are included in the trip limits for Minor Shelf Rockfish and splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for Minor Slope Rockfish.

4/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curffin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.

5/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09.50' N. lat.), and between Destruction Is. (47°40' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Pnt. there is an additional limit of 100 lb or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.(46°38.17' N. lat.).

6/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 22 inches (56 cm) total length North of 42° N. lat. and 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.

7/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling off California and leopard shark.

8/ LEFG vessels are allowed to fish inside groundfish conservation areas using hook and line only. See section 660.230 (d) of the regulations for more information.

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

## Table 3 (North) to Part 660, Subpart F [Corrected]

2. On page 72871, in amendatory instruction 4, Table 3 (North) to Part 660,

Subpart F—Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for

Open Access Gears North of 40°10' N Lat. is corrected to read as follows:

**Table 3 (North) to Part 660, Subpart F -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Open Access Gears North of 40°10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table

12/1/2021

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	North of 46° 16' N. lat.	shoreline - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>					
2		40 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>					
3	46° 16' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.	30 fm line <sup>1/2</sup> - 40 fm line <sup>1/2</sup>					
See §§660.60, 660.330 and 660.333 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Bank, and EFHCAs).							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
4	Minor Slope Rockfish <sup>3/</sup> & Darkblotched rockfish	2,000 lb / months					
5	Pacific ocean perch	100 lb/ month					
6	Sablefish	600 lb/day, or 1 landing /week up to 2,000 lb, not to exceed 4,000 lb / 2 months					
7	Shortpine thornyheads	50 lb/month					
8	Longspine thornyheads	50 lb/month					
9	Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other	5,000 lb/ month					
11	Flatfish <sup>4/8/</sup>						
12	Whiting	300 lb/ month					
13	Minor Shelf Rockfish <sup>3/</sup>	800 lb / month					
14	Widow rockfish	2,000 lb/ 2 months					
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21	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat. Minor Nearshore Rockfish	2,000 lb / 2 months, of which no more than 75 lb may be quillback rockfish, and of which no more than 75 lb may be copper rockfish					
22	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat. California Black Rockfish	7,000 lb / 2 months					
23	Lingcod <sup>6/</sup>						
24	North of 42° 00' N. lat.	2,500 lb/ month					
25	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.	1,000 lb / month					
26	Pacific cod	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
27	Spiny dogfish	200,000 lb/ 2 months	150,000 lb/ 2 months		100,000 lb/ 2 months		
28	Longnose skate	Unlimited					
29	Big skate	Unlimited					
30	Other Fish <sup>7/</sup> & Cabezon in California	Unlimited					
31	Oregon Cabezon/Kelp Greenling	Unlimited					
32	SALMON TROLL (subject to RCAs when retaining all species of groundfish, except for yellowtail rockfish and lingcod, as described below)						
33	North	Salmon trollers may retain and land up to 500 lb of yellowtail rockfish per month as long as salmon is on board, both within and outside of the RCA. Salmon trollers may retain and land up to 1 lingcod per 2 Chinook per trip, plus 1 lingcod per trip, up to a trip limit of 10 lingcod, on a trip where any fishing occurs within the RCA. The lingcod limit only applies during times when lingcod retention is allowed, and is not "CLOSED." These limits are within the per month limits described in the table above, and not in addition to those limits. All groundfish species are subject to the open access limits, seasons, size limits and RCA restrictions listed in the table above, unless otherwise stated here.					
34	PINK SHRIMP NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL (not subject to RCAs)						
35	North	Effective April 1 - October 31: Groundfish: 500 lb/day, multiplied by the number of days of the trip, not to exceed 1,500 lb/trip. The following sublimits also apply and are counted toward the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits: lingcod 300 lb/month (minimum 24 inch size limit); sablefish 2,000 lb/month; canary, thornyheads and yelloweye rockfish are PROHIBITED. All other groundfish species taken are managed under the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits. Landings of these species count toward the per day and per trip groundfish limits and do not have species-specific limits. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of pink shrimp landed.					

TABLE 3 (North)

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1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ Between 46°16' N. lat. and 40°10' N. lat. and the 30 fm and 40 fm lines, fishing is only allowed with hook-and-line gear except bottom longline and dinglebar gear, as defined in §660.11

3/ Bocaccio, chilipepper and cowcod rockfishes are included in the trip limits for Minor Shelf Rockfish. Splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for Minor Slope Rockfish.

4/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.

5/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09.50' N. lat.), and between Destruction Is. (47°40' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Pnt. (46°38.17' N. lat.), there is an additional limit of 100 lbs or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.

6/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 22 inches (56 cm) total length North of 42° N. lat. and 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.

7/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling off California and leopard shark.

8/ Open access vessels are allowed to fish inside groundfish conservation areas using hook and line only. See section 660.330 (d) of the regulations for more information.

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

Dated: December 27, 2021.

Karen Abrams,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2021-28351 Filed: 12/29/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 12/30/2021]